



News for Immediate Release
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DWR INCREASES 2004 WATER ALLOCATION

SACRAMENTO -- The Department of Water Resources today announced an increase in the 2004 allocation for water delivery to the State Water Project Contractors.

The increased allocation is 50 percent of the Contractors' requested amounts, and could continue to increase during the winter months. At this time last year, the allocation was 45 percent. The initial allocation for 2004, announced in December, was 35 percent of requested amounts.

The 50 percent allocation amounts to 2,064,406 acre-feet, distributed among the 29 long-term SWP Contractors who serve more than 20 million Californians and nearly a million acres of irrigated farmland.

In addition to this allocation, many SWP Contractors are carrying over water from their 2003 allocation. SWP Contractors benefited from a final 2003 allocation of 90 percent of requested amounts, of which they are continuing to take delivery of about 400,000 acre-feet.

In making this allocation, the Department considered a conservative projection of hydrology, SWP operational constraints, and 2004 contractor requests. SWP Contractors' Table A water for 2004 totals 4.13 million acre-feet, of which all was requested. Table A water is the maximum contractual amount that SWP Contractors can request each year. The Department will revise the allocation as the year's hydrologic and water supply conditions develop.

A Notice to SWP Contractors appears on the DWR's State Water Project Analysis Office Web site at: <http://www.swpao.water.ca.gov/notices.html>.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

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